

FAIR – A New Constitution!

Our new governing papers, our ‘Articles of Association’ have been agreed and we now need to find out which sort of member you would like to be.

A form is included with this newsletter. Please **fill this in** to pick your membership option. More information is given on the form.

There are two types of Member:

Full Members:

- Can vote at Annual and Special General Meetings, but need to pay £1 in case FAIR winds up (no other subscription fee payable)
- Get newsletter and other mailings.

Associate Members:

- Get newsletter and other mailings.

(If you are part of an organisation, you can elect to become a Full Member as an individual, but your organisation would automatically become an Associate Member.)

The deadline for receipt of the forms is the **1st December 2017**. If we don't hear from you by then, we will assume you wish to be an **Associate Member**.

If you have any problems with filling in the form, please contact us on **0131 662 1962**.



FAIR AGM 2017

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) will take place on **14th December** at **11am**, at 95 Causewayside, Edinburgh EH9 1QG.

Social Security Bill - Scotland



The Scottish Government is planning to make changes to the Benefits system in Scotland.

FAIR helped make an Easy Read guide to the bill, setting out the changes the Scottish Government wants to make.

You can download the guide online here:

<https://beta.gov.scot/publications/social-security-scotland-bill-easy-read-guide>

Members of the Scottish Parliament and other organisations will have the chance to look at the Bill and say what they think about it. The Bill is not expected to become law in Scotland until May 2018.

Supported Decision-making

People First (Scotland) have been campaigning for equal rights for people with learning disabilities for a long time. Guardianship orders take away a person's right to make their own decisions.

People First has written a Framework for Supported Decision-making that shows that supported decision-making can work for everyone if it replaces the current Guardianship system in Scotland.

The Framework can be found on the People First Website:
www.peoplefirstscotland.org/news

People First members did research called: 'Does it matter? Decision making by people with learning disabilities', with support from DRILL (Disability Research on Independent Living and Learning).

You can also find the research on the People First website.

If you want to know more about this you can contact Lisa Weylandt at People First (Scotland). Telephone: **0131 478 7707** or **07736821596**
Email: **lisa.weylantd@peoplefirstscotland.org**

GET 2 GETHER – Halloween Howl!

Back by popular demand: THE event to be seen at in East Lothian. Another big get2gether night out at the Brunton in Musselburgh, this time the theme is Halloween Howl.



Dress to impress or come as your favourite scary character. DJ Andy from Nae Ice Entertainment featuring DJ Stuart. We know it's going to be a screamingly good night. Be there!

3rd November 2017, 7pm – 11pm at The Brunton Theatre, Musselburgh.

£12 on the door, £10 if you book in advance, CARERS FREE!

To book tickets or find out more, call **07551 125 726** or **07867 179 023**.

Inclusive Dance with Edinburgh Leisure

Edinburgh Leisure are currently looking to start inclusive creative movement and dance sessions for people with disabilities and their carers. They would like people to give their thoughts on this by filling in a survey.

They are looking for input from 2 groups:

- Individuals with a disability: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/66C9JDR
- Carers and organisations who work with individuals: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/66FLNJP

Each survey takes less than 5 minutes and will help Edinburgh Leisure decide what the sessions should be like.

Volunteers wanted – FAIR Focus Group

We are looking for volunteers to come in and have a look at our Keep Yourself Healthy booklets, to see if they need updated. We can't pay you for this but we will give you a free lunch!

If you're interested in taking part, please call **0131 662 1962** or email fair@fairadvice.org.uk

VOCAL Carer Learning and Leisure Events – October – Dec 2017

VOCAL's new calendar of courses and events for Edinburgh carers from October - December 2017 is now available.

All courses and events are free to unpaid carers living in Edinburgh and can be booked securely online at **www.carerstraining.co.uk** or by calling the VOCAL carer centre on **0131 622 6666**.

New transitions project from Contact A Family Scotland

A new project is under way to close the information gap around leaving school and next steps for parents and carers of young people living with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

Contact A Family wants to hear from families across Scotland supporting young people aged from 12 to 20. Their input will shape a new resource to better prepare families for the journey to adulthood.



Starting in September, families will be able to share their thoughts, questions and experiences through regional workshops, online discussion groups, or directly by email or telephone. Wherever possible, one-to-one conversations will be offered using alternative communication styles, for example Talking Mats or BSL, so as many people as possible have the chance to contribute their views and ideas.

The project is supported by the Scottish Government through a CYPFEIF and ALEC Fund grant.

To take part, or be kept informed about the project, contact Tracey Francis at **tracey.francis@cafamily.org.uk** or click on 'Going forward – Preparing Parents for Transition' at **www.cafamily.org.uk/scotland**.



Also available in large print or Audio CD on request.

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